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Grand Teton National Park News Release

September 21, 2001 For Immediate Release Joan Anzelmo/Jackie Skaggs 307/739-3393 01-80

GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK LIFTS FIRE USE RESTRICTIONS

Acting Superintendent Steve Iobst announced that fire use restrictions imposed on August 1 due to extreme fire danger are now being lifted in Grand Teton National Park. All fire and smoking restrictions will be lifted jointly with the Bridger-Teton National Forest effective Monday, September 24, 2001. Teton County will maintain current fire restrictions until further notice.

In Grand Teton National Park, wood and/or charcoal fires will be allowed at park campgrounds and picnic areas as long as they are limited to established fire pits or fire grates. Backcountry fires are allowed only in established fire rings at lakeshore campsites and must be attended at all times. Permits are required to camp in any of the park's backcountry sites. Only dead and down wood may be used as firewood. The purpose of these restrictions is to provide for human safety and to protect personal property and the area's natural resources.

With cooler temperatures, recent precipitation, and higher humidity, the fire danger has been reduced to a rating of "High." Although fire restrictions have been lifted, park visitors and forest users are asked to be extremely cautious when using fire and are reminded that fire restrictions could be reinstated if conditions change.

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